

SENATOR HABERMAN: Okay, thank you, Senator Hoagland, you have answered my question. Fellow senators, I want you to listen to this. Here is an irrigator who has a meter and out where I come from they are way out in the tules and somehow that meter gets tampered with. Now we don't know what tampering means, a cow could kick it, a coyote could run over it or a weasel or a tractor could hit it, be in a hailstorm, something could happen to that meter and I not know it. So here comes the government or the inspector and they say, aha, that meter has been tampered with, Haberman, you pay, oh and for your information, members of the body, my son and I have to pay a \$5,000 payment the first of the month in advance if and when we start to use our irrigation motors next April or May, anyway, I have to pay that. Then I go to court, so I am guilty, I am automatically guilty. Then I have to go to court and prove that I didn't tamper with that. Well I think that is backwards because we are supposed to be innocent until proven guilty. Now I am not against fining people and going after them if they tamper with their meters. Now bypassing it, that is fine because you really have to work at that and I don't think anybody would deliberately walk onto anybody's farm and wire it to bypass it but out where I come from I have had people's tires on their sprinklers deliberately shot with high powered rifles because somebody didn't like the guy. So out where I come from you could go tamper with somebody's meter on purpose, somebody that didn't like me like Senator DeCamp doesn't like me anymore I guess or something like that. He could go tamper with my meter. I have to pay that utility bill. It could be \$2500. Then I have to go to court and prove that I didn't do it. Well now that is going to be kind of hard to do because I'm not going to be able to take fingerprints, pickup tires, the county sheriff isn't going to help me, the county attorney....I'm going to have to hire an attorney and go to defend myself and I may be perfectly innocent so I don't like that part of the bill. I really think it is a bad part of the bill and I would like to see it out there clarified or some other language in there. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, Senator Haberman, expressed my concerns and maybe we can deal with it a little bit later. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Hoagland.